

Amendments to the Abstract

ABSTRACT

5 An auction service is provided that stimulates competition between energy suppliers (i.e.,
electric power or natural gas). A bidding moderator (Moderator) receives offers from competing
suppliers specifying the economic terms each is willing to offer to end users for estimated
quantities of electric power or gas supply (separate auctions). Each supplier receives feedback
from the Moderator based on competitors' offers and has the opportunity to adjust its own offers
10 down or up, depending on whether it wants to encourage or discourage additional energy
delivery commitments in a particular geographic area or to a particular customer group. Each
supplier's offers can also be changed to reflect each supplier's capacity utilization. The
Moderator selects at least ~~two suppliers~~ one supplier to provide energy to each end user, with
each supplier providing at least a portion of the energy to be used by each end user at an end-user
15 facility during a specific future time interval.